



Speaker Biographies – South Sound Science Symposium 2014

Ashley Ahearn is the environment reporter at KUOW - National Public Radio in Seattle - and part of the regional multimedia collaborative project EarthFix. Before joining KUOW Ashley was a producer and reporter for Living on Earth, a nationally aired environment program from Public Radio International. Her stories also appear on All Things Considered, Morning Edition, The World and Here and Now. She has a masters in science journalism from the Annenberg School at the University of Southern California and has completed reporting fellowships with MIT, the Vermont Law School, the Metcalf Institute at the University of Rhode Island and the Institutes for Journalism and Natural Resources. She also serves on the board of the Society of Environmental Journalists. In her spare time Ashley enjoys riding vintage motorcycles, snowboarding and hiking in the Olympics and the Cascade mountain ranges of the Northwest.

Hannah Anderson is the Regional Rare Species Program Manager with the South Puget Sound Program of Center for Natural Lands Management. The main objective of her work is to promote, coordinate, and facilitate the range-wide recovery of rare species occurring on prairie habitats throughout western Cascadia. Prairie habitats in the Pacific Northwest are extremely rare and fragmented and as such, their conservation must be approached with a regional and cooperative strategy. Working beyond political and geographic barriers and with all organizations and individuals who can assist in the recovery process provides the best chance for success. Hannah also leads streaked horned lark research and monitoring projects at Joint Base Lewis-McChord and on dredged-material islands of the Columbia River. Hannah holds a B.A. in Bio-anthropology from the University of Washington and a Masters in Environmental Studies from The Evergreen State College. Her master's work focused on the streaked horned lark, one of the system's rarest birds. Hannah is the mother of two young children and when not working can regularly be found cooking dinner for her family, playing pirates, and ushering Desmond (6yrs) and June (3yrs) through walks in the local rainforest.

Katie Campbell is an Emmy®-award winning multimedia journalist at KCTS 9, where she covers environmental issues of the Pacific Northwest. She's a lead reporter for the regional public media project [EarthFix](#), and a special correspondent for the PBS NewsHour. She has earned national awards for her role in the documentaries [Undamming the Elwha](#), [COAL](#) and [Glacier Caves](#). Katie grew up on a flower farm in southern Minnesota. After completing her undergraduate degree in journalism at St. Catherine's University, she worked as an enterprise reporter at daily newspapers in Minnesota and Florida. She holds a master's degree in narrative journalism from the University of Oregon. Prior to joining KCTS 9 and EarthFix, Katie was an instructor at the University of Oregon School of Journalism and Communication.

Aimee Christy is a research biologist at Pacific Shellfish Institute. She holds a B.S. from the University of Washington and an M.S. from The Evergreen State College. Her current research projects include nutrient bioextraction using blue mussels, mycofiltration, harmful algal blooms, citizen monitoring, and conducting water quality outreach for K-12 students and the community. Upcoming work will target marine debris and microplastics, designing school programs that target Next Generation science standards, and exploring alternative disposal practices for dog waste in urbanized environments

Jeff Dickison is the Assistant Director of Natural Resources for the Squaxin Island Tribe where he has worked for over twenty years. The Tribe is located in Kamilche, WA and has treaty reserved fishing rights in numerous freshwater streams and saltwater bays that make up the head of Puget Sound. Jeff



has a Master of Science degree in Fish Biology from the University of Washington. His career has been focused on protection of habitat for natural resources and particularly salmon. He has participated in numerous research projects aimed at better understanding of fish behavior and how they utilize habitat. Jeff is absolutely convinced that salmon need water to survive.

Christopher Ellings manages the Nisqually Indian Tribe Salmon Recovery Program which is dedicated to developing, implementing, and adaptively managing salmon recovery plans in the Nisqually Watershed. Additionally, Chris leads the multi-disciplinary Nisqually Delta Research Program which involves a diverse group of scientists who investigate the impact of large scale restoration on physical process-habitat structure-biological function linkages in order to produce tools the Nisqually Indian Tribe and Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge can use to adaptively manage the Delta in a dynamic landscape. Chris also contributed to the development of the Nisqually Chinook Stock Management Plan which establishes a set of habitat, harvest, and hatchery actions that will ultimately lead to the development of a natural Nisqually Chinook stock. Recently, the Nisqually Salmon Recovery Program has been finalizing the Nisqually Winter Steelhead Recovery Plan that will guide steelhead recovery efforts in the watershed.

Sarah Hamman is the Restoration Ecologist for the Center for Natural Lands Management, a conservation non-profit based out of Washington and California. Her work is aimed at restoring rare species habitat in PNW prairies using rigorous science and careful conservation planning. Sarah holds a B.A. in Biology from Wittenberg University and a Ph.D. in Ecology from Colorado State University. Much of her training and experience has been in ecosystem ecology, with a focus on fire and invasive species effects on forest and grassland plant and soil communities. Sarah is also an adjunct professor at The Evergreen State College, where she teaches Fire Science and Society and Restoration Ecology for the MES program.

Jennifer Lanksbury is a Fish and Wildlife Biologist with the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife and works on the Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program - Toxics in Biota team. Her research is focused on toxic contaminants in the Sound's biota, including exposure patterns in the nearshore ecosystem. She has over fifteen years of experience in the field of marine ecology as a field researcher, data analyst and published author and has been with WDFW since 2009. Before coming to WDFW to study marine ecotoxicology, Jennifer worked for the NOAA Alaska Fisheries Science Center doing research on plankton biology and ecology. Jennifer received her BS in Natural Resource Science (Wildlife Biology) from Washington State University in 1996 and her MS degree in Environmental Science (Marine and Estuarine Science) from Western Washington University in 2000.

Dr. Dayv Lowry has been a research scientist with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife since 2010. Prior to this he worked as the Salmonid Stock Inventory (SaSI) Data Coordinator and a Research Biologist with WDFW's Fish Science Division for 4 years. Dayv currently serves as the Senior Groundfish and Forage Fish Research Scientist with the Marine Fish Science Unit, where he oversees remotely operated vehicle (ROV), bottom trawl, scuba survey, fishery evaluation, and stock assessment research in Puget Sound for the Department, as well as serving as a policy advisor on fishery management issues. His areas of expertise are the behavior, anatomy, trophic interactions, and demography of marine species, specifically forage fishes (herring, smelt, sand lance) and sharks. More information about Dayv and the projects being conducted by his 13-person team of brilliant and dedicated scientists can be found on WDFW's webpage under Conservation, then Species and Ecosystem Science.



Sean MacDonald's research program focuses on applying ecological principles to problems involving the exploitation, cultivation, and conservation of aquatic species in a changing global landscape. In particular, he is interested in individual and community responses to major agents of ecosystem change, such as climate change, ocean acidification, and nearshore hypoxia. He has studied the ecology of wild and cultured geoducks since 2006 and contributed as a primary author on reports and publications of the Geoduck Aquaculture Research Program. He continues to investigate the ecosystem, policy, and human dimensions of aquaculture in Puget Sound in several ongoing studies. As part of this work, Sean hopes to provide a more comprehensive understanding of the natural and societal environment to support sustainable aquaculture in our region

Dr. Jenifer McIntyre is an aquatic ecotoxicologist working at the Puyallup Research and Extension Center for Washington State University. She is passionate about science that effectuates change. Her B.Sc. in environmental biology at Queen's University led to the ban of a pulp mill effluent used as a road dust suppressant. Her M.S. from the University of Washington on contaminant bioaccumulation led the Washington State Department of Health to issue a fish consumption advisory for several fishes in Lake Washington. Her Ph.D. research at UW on olfactory neurotoxicity of copper in coho salmon helped pass legislation in Washington and California that phases out copper and other metals in brake pads. Jen's current work focuses on the ecotoxicology of stormwater runoff and the biological effectiveness of green stormwater infrastructure.

David McBride is a senior toxicologist with the Washington State Department of Health. Mr. McBride holds undergraduate degrees in biology and chemistry and a master's degree in environmental toxicology from the University of Washington. David served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Thailand where he directed a rural hospital lab; subsequently he ran a lab at Tuft's New England Medical Center in Boston involved in nephrology research. Mr. McBride joined the agency in 1991 as a staff toxicologist working on a variety of issues ranging from the development of human health sediment standards, drinking water standards, air pollutants, fish consumption rates, to risk assessment issues. In 2000, David developed the state's fish advisory program and serves as the lead toxicologist for the program. Along with staff from the Office of Shellfish and Water Protection, David has been deeply involved in evaluating recent arsenic data in geoducks from Puget Sound.

Professor Catherine O'Neill is a professor at the Seattle University School of Law. She received her B.A. from the University of Notre Dame, and her J.D. from the University of Chicago. After graduating, she was named a Ford Foundation Graduate Fellow at Harvard Law School. She then worked for the Washington State Department of Ecology in the Air Quality Program before teaching at the University of Washington, the University of Arizona, and, currently, Seattle University. At Seattle University, she is a Co-Faculty Director of the Center for Indian Law & Policy.

Mindy Roberts is an environmental engineer with the Washington State Department of Ecology's Environmental Assessment Program. She manages several large studies that analyze human impacts on Puget Sound as well as the region's lakes and rivers. She has a BS in Civil Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley, an MS in Civil and Oceanographic Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and a Ph.D. in Civil and



Environmental Engineering from the University of Washington. She has over 20 years of experience working on complex scientific studies. Mindy is a registered professional engineer in the State of Washington and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Heather Trim is Science and Policy Director at Futurewise. She works to prevent runoff from entering our waterways, improving shoreline management practices and policies and addressing a range of issues from community sustainability, habitats, and climate change. Heather has more than 20 years of experience in environmental work. Prior to joining Futurewise, Heather was at People for Puget Sound for over ten years where she focused reducing toxic pollution in Puget Sound, ecological features in waterfronts, habitat restoration policies, clean stormwater, and environmental justice issues. Before that, she was staff scientist for the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council working on various projects leading to the greening of the rivers. She also worked for the Regional Water Quality Control Board on water quality standards, regulatory permits, and pollution assessments of both surface and ground water for Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. Beyond Futurewise, Heather has also been a leader of Zero Waste Seattle, which has run campaigns on banning styrofoam food serviceware and plastic bags, reducing unwanted phonebooks, and increasing recycling at multi-family buildings and commercial buildings, among other waste reduction efforts.

Tweet Biographies



Ashley Ahearn roves the #PNW covering science and the environment for @EarthFixMedia and NPR. She has a thing for salmon and scientists.

Hannah Anderson, CNLM, facilitates a coordinated and strategic approach to conservation of prairie habitats and species in western Cascadia.

@KatieCampbell is Emmy-award winning journalist at @KCTS9. She covers environmental issues of the #PNW & reports for @EarthFixMedia.

Aimee Christy is a UW & Evergreen graduate who enjoys viewing plankton under microscopes, dreaming ways to convert dog waste into safe compost and promoting a healthy Sound.

Jeff Dickson, Assistant Director of Natural Resources, Squaxin Island Tribe and avowed scientist who has been gill deep in fish these last 30 years. Proximity has definitely increased my consumption of fish. Fishhead.

Christopher Ellings, Nisqually Indian Tribe Salmon Recovery Program Manager, leads a team focused on implementing science based actions to recover salmon.

As the Restoration Ecologist for the Center for Natural Lands Management, **Sarah Hamman** researches and applies restoration strategies for rare species habitat in the PNW.

Jennifer Lanksbury is a fish biologist with WDFW who investigates toxic contaminants in marine biota, including exposure patterns in nearshore ecosystems

Dayv Lowry's team studies marine groundfish to advance ecosystem-based management in Puget Sound. Yes, there are robots. Lasers too.

Geoducks are big clams and big business. **Sean MacDonald** evaluates aquaculture to provide information for a healthy environment and a healthy industry.

Dr. McIntyre – Aquatic Ecotoxicologist – Currently studying whether green stormwater infrastructure save our fish from toxic stormwater runoff?

Dave McBride is a senior toxicologist with the Dept. of Health and lead for the state's fish advisory program. Currently he finds himself awash in geoduck arsenic data.

Professor Catherine O'Neill studies contamination and depletion of fish and other natural resources, and particularly implications for tribes' rights.

Mindy Roberts is an environmental engineer with Ecology who used to model but now manages ridiculously complex Puget Sound modeling projects.

Heather Trim – preventing toxic and plastic pollution from the last millennium to the future ... wisely. @Futurewise.